

Summer 2017

Focus, 2017, Summer

Andrews University

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FOCUS

SUMMER 2017

Vol 53 No 3

PG 9—2017–18 Howard Season

PG 11—NSF Grant Awarded

PG 18—Meet Michael Nixon

PG 24—Strategic Plan Unveiled

THE ANDREWS UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE



The Andrews Reach

Andrea Luxton, *president*

Each time our Cabinet team meets we start by looking at Scripture. Last year we focused on the gospel of John. This year we are reading and reflecting on the book of Acts. Last week was the beginning, Acts 1, with its focus on change, transitions and yet hope. And right there in Acts 1:8 is that powerful promise: "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

I reflected on that promise and challenge during the August graduation weekend that immediately followed our Cabinet conversation. As I walked around, greeted and congratulated various graduates and their families it was humbling to remember how much Andrews University does reach out to the ends of the earth. In addition to the students that study on the Andrews University main campus, 20 percent of whom are from countries other than the U.S., we have students regularly studying with us in their own countries, or in other nearby countries. Some study online, some study in cohorts taught by our faculty, some study with faculty from their countries approved by Andrews. But they are all very much Andrews students. So I shook hands with individuals who had never been on our physical campus before but were graduating with our degree, and how excited they were. I remember personally meeting individuals from Kenya, Vietnam, Ecuador, Trinidad and Italy to name a few. I met others from across the U.S., including Hawaii, that felt part of "us," impacted by the Andrews experience, yet the impact had been from a distance.

Reports from our Integrated Marketing & Communication team confirmed the

reach I experienced. 9,600 individuals tuned in to watch all or part of the Sunday graduation service nationally and internationally and many were sending online messages when their family member or friend walked across the stage.

I said this reach was humbling. It is. We have a God-given responsibility to live the gospel, to represent the gospel and the Seventh-day Adventist message throughout Berrien County, and in all Michigan and North America, and to the ends of the earth. We should not, and I believe do not, take that mission lightly. This reach is also exciting, for just as with Acts there is a promise along with the challenge. That is the promise of the wisdom and the power and the strength to be those witnesses as we ask for those gifts.

So we ask for your prayers too. Andrews University has a unique role in relation to the world and the church. It can reach to the ends of the earth. Yes, we educate. We educate and must educate well. Yet we do so in the context of the gospel and of that gospel we always bear witness.

Thank you.



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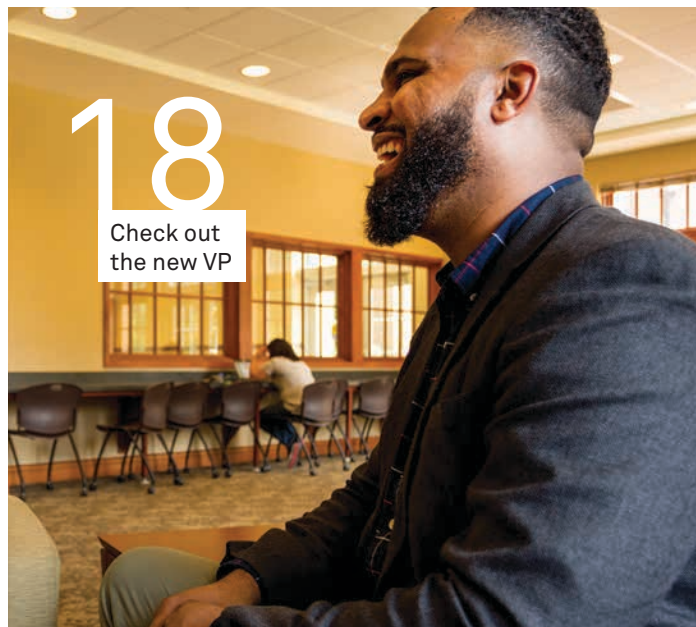
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Check out
the new VP



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In the family



Departments

On the cover: Michael T. Nixon, vice president for Diversity & Inclusion, chats with new friends after the 2017 University Convocation on August 31. **Left to right:** Garrison Hayes, MDiv student, Jessica Yoong, AUSA president, Adriana Perera, Department of Music chair, Renee Paddock, residence hall housing coordinator, Michael Nixon. **Photo credit:** Darren Heslop, IMC staff photographer

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This year's schedule includes events celebrating the 50-year anniversary of the Madaba Plains Project. 2017 Honored Alumni are: Christon Arthur, Larry Herr, Fred Manchur, Walter Thompson and Carrie VanDenburgh.

18 Connecting, Empowering

Deborah Weithers, dean for Student Life and Title IX deputy coordinator, interviewed Andrews University's first vice president for Diversity & Inclusion, Michael T. Nixon, who started his new role on August 1.

24 The Next Chapter

by **Andrea Luxton**

In the next five issues of FOCUS we will feature a "chapter" from the 2017–2022 strategic plan which was formally unveiled at the State of the University address on August 18.

28 Andrews Legacy

The Alumni Association celebrates the legacy connection by taking photos of the students and/or families during new student orientation.



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Visit Andrews University's YouTube page to view recent events, including summer graduation services and University Convocation.

Preamble

Dear Editor,

Thank you for the very nice piece on Alan Mitchell's retirement from his position as a professor in the Department of Music and conductor of the Andrews University Wind Symphony in the spring 2017, FOCUS. Although I never had the opportunity to perform with the Wind Symphony as a student, I have had the privilege of participating in the Wind Symphony as a community member for the past eight academic years and of touring with them to Germany, Spain and Italy.

During all that time, and on all those tours, I was constantly impressed with his musicianship, conducting skill, and his unfailing patience and courtesy toward his student musicians, all a testament to his commitment to musical excellence and to the welfare of his students.

Again, my thanks for a very nice tribute to a fine musician/teacher, and a good man.

Bruce R. Wright (EdD '84)



Don't forget to write

Letters are always welcome.

To ensure a range of viewpoints, we encourage letters of fewer than 300 words. Letters may be edited for content, style and space.

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critical to Andrews University and our ability to serve you, our alums. If you would like to learn more about this project, please visit our informational page by going to alumni.andrews.edu/2017directory. Thank you for your participation in this important project.



JULY 17
(Madagascar)

andrews_university Faculty and students spend time during the summer around the world, learning on-site and hands-on to dive deeper into their field of study. #aedu



AUGUST 3

andrews_university Shoutout to our groundskeepers who keep our arboretum pristine. "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him." #aedu



AUGUST 9

andrews_university We're going LIVE at the clinic container in just a few minutes! Head on over to our Facebook page and join us! #aedu #auengageglobally



AUGUST 21

andrews_university Don't have eclipse viewing glasses? Improvise! #eclipse2017 #aedu #plantservicesforthewin

INSTAGRAM
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TWITTER
@AndrewsUniv



@AndrewsUniv • Aug 22
Andy takes a break during New Student Orientation.
#YearOfTheCardinal
#aucardinal18 #aedu



@AndrewsUniv • Aug 4
Music Materials Center students saw manuscripts by Chopin, Mozart and Wagner in Chicago this week.
#auexploreintentionally

@jrbourget • Aug 27
@AndrewsUniv joined by students, faculty, staff and University administrators
#hatehasnohomehere



SEPT. 5

Andrews University Campus Ministries
Andrews University has partnered with Red Cross of South Bend, Indiana to help deliver all the items that have been donated over the last week to the victims of hurricane Harvey. A big thank you to all who generously gave.

J. N. Andrews Honors Program Passing on the Randy Sanchez Memorial Honors Office Key. This morning, Ms. Maxine passed along the Honors Office key to President Butler. Honors students seeking a safe and conducive study space in the evenings can arrange with President Haley Butler since she is our Keeper of the Key!

AUGUST 28



Andrews University Department of Agriculture

Today we hosted some students from the Agricultural Science Camp at Southwestern Michigan College! They learned about Landscape Design and got to create their own sketches!

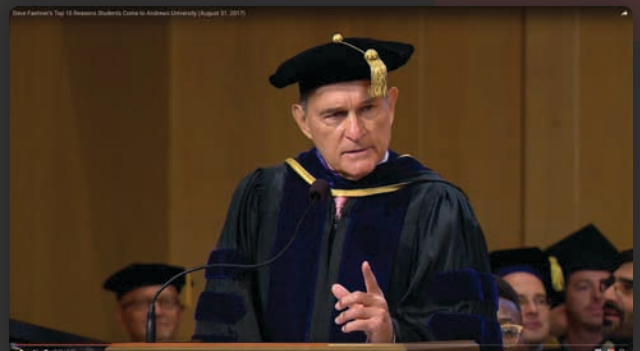
JULY 20



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YOUTUBE



Andrews University

—<https://youtu.be/qZFstFamVBU> —Dave Faehner's Top 10 Reasons Students Come to Andrews University (August 31, 2017)